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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities
Expert Meeting on Positive Measures to Promote Sustainable Development, Particularly in Meeting the Objectives of Multilateral Environmental Agreements
Geneva, 3-5 November 1997
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Positive measures to promote sustainable development, particularly in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)
4. Adoption of the report

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1: Election of officers

It is recommended that the Expert Meeting elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda for the meeting is in section I above. The schedule of meetings for the three days is attached to this document.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/EM.3/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 3: Positive measures to promote sustainable development, particularly in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)

The meeting is convened pursuant to a decision taken by the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities at the second part of its first session (19-21 February 1997). The objective is to "examine positive measures, including innovative approaches to them, in the context of promoting sustainable development, particularly in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs)".[1]

With a view to expediting substantive discussions of the Expert Meeting, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared an issues paper entitled "Positive measures to promote sustainable development, in particular in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements" (TD/B/COM.1/EM.3/2). It identifies issues on which deliberations could focus, as follows: (a) experiences in accessing environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building; (b) the role of market-based instruments, including emissions trading and joint implementation, in promoting sustainable development; (c) the role of incentives for biodiversity conservation and for promoting sustainable development; and (d) financial mechanisms and innovative approaches to generating financial resources for sustainable development.

The Expert Meeting is intended to focus on possible actions at the multilateral level to promote sustainable development and more particularly to meet the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). It may contribute to a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges in the implementation of positive measures, as well as providing an opportunity to examine innovative approaches to them. This could help to ensure their effective implementation, which would be essential to advance sustainable development. The results of the Expert Meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities at its second session (17-21 November 1997) for action.

Documentation

TD/B/COM.1/EM.3/2 "Positive measures to promote sustainable development, particularly in meeting the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements".

Item 4: Adoption of the report

The Expert Meeting will adopt its recommendations/findings/conclusions at the end of the Meeting. The final report will be compiled under the authority of the Chairperson after the conclusion of the Meeting.

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[1] Report of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities on its first session (TD/B/44/5 - TD/B/COM.1/6), annex I, part B, para. 3(a).

Schedule of meetings

Monday, 3 November	Tuesday, 4 November	Wednesday, 5 November
10 a.m. Plenary: Opening of the Meeting Election of officers Adoption of the agenda Informals: Item 3	10 a.m. Informals (cont'd): Item 3	10 a.m. Informals (cont'd): Item 3
3 p.m. Informals (cont'd): Item 3	3 p.m. Informals (cont'd): Item 3	3 p.m. Informals (cont'd): Item 3 (if necessary) Consideration of the draft text of recommendations or conclusions Plenary (closing): Adoption of the report